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SAPOLIO

Congregational Home and Foreign Missionary Societies of Michigan Consider Ways to Help Them.

The best women of this great state interested in the most tremendous and self-sacrificing undertaking in the history of the world, were represented at the 24th annual meeting of the Michigan Board of Missions of the Interior and the 16th annual meeting of the Women's Home Missionary Union, held in the Congregational church in this city, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week. All parts of the state, which is divided into seventeen district associations, have from one of the many single associations comprising them a lady or two to make reports and take back the many good things learned at the meeting. The first meeting of the W. B. M. I. was held in Lansing in 1873 with Mrs. S. M. Freeland as president, and state meetings have been held in 18 different cities and regularly every year since, the interest both in a religious and financial way having constantly increased except for a slight decrease in funds in 1896 from 1895. They have as a special work the carrying of the gospel to the women and children in foreign lands and the decreasing of suffering among those converted, many of whom are constantly harassed by the heathen and religious fanatics of these far away lands. About 85 delegates were here at some time during the week, they being entertained by the families of the Congregational church.

The officers, all but two of whom were present, are: President, Mrs. J. B. Angell, Ann Arbor; first vice president, Mrs. W.A. Gavett, Detroit; second vice president, Mrs. C. B. Stowell, Hudson; third vice president, Mrs. J. W. Bradshaw, Ann Arbor; corresponding secretary, Mrs. C. C. Eitsworth, Greenville; assistant secretary, Mrs. E. Rutan. Greenville; recording secretary, Mrs. W. G. Sperry, Olivet; treasurer, Mrs. Robert Campbell, Ann Arbor; junior department secretary, Mrs. Thomas Chaimers, Port Buron; juvenile department secretary, Mrs. D. F. Bradley, Grand Rapids; auditor, Mr. Sidney Clarkson, Ann Arbor; agent, "mission studies," Mrs. M. M. Martin, Al-

Mrs. Angell called the convention to order at 11:00 Tuesday forenoon and conducted devetional exercises and appointed as a nominating committee Mrs. J. Estabrook, Olivet: Mrs. M. M. Martin, Ann Arbor; Mrs. H. R. Lovell, Flint; Mrs. Wm. Knight, Saginaw; Mrs. L. Withy, Grand Rapids.

Mrs. J. C. Cromer welcomed the ladies to the city and Mrs. W. A. Gavett, of Detroit, responded, after which greetings were given by Mrs. Mershon from the First M. E. Miss Wingate representing the Board of the Interior at Chicago. Miss Cozad, a missionary in Japan now on a furlough, was called upon and gave a short but interesting talk on her work in Japan, saying that it was necessary that ladies should do the missionary work in Japan as a man's presence was ure to create scaudal. Boys are the m apt pupils upon first entering the schools, and as the girls are married between the ages of 12 and 16 but little chance is given At 23 years they are as American ladies would be at 30 and being in most cases divorced before that time they are able to take up Bible study. About 12 years ago the greatest agency for God in the great work.

Mrs. C. C. Elisworth, secretary, made her new church had been started in Grand Hav. en with a returned missionary from Turkey as pastor; the Hancock association has organized a boys brigade which will support a Sunday schools will also send a missionary; and also the meeting where cheer prevailed, in the Genesee association Grand Blane has boxes were filled, and good was done on all increased its contributions five fold; Ovid hands.

solo and Mrs. Kassick, of Jackson, conducted the devotional exercises in closing. Mrs. Augell appointed Mrs. J. S. Woodruff, of

a committee on credentials. Tuesday evening's was a service highly enjoyed by a large number of Owosso peo-

Mrs Ohlinger, who has for many years

THE HEATHEN AND UNFORTU- the experiences of missionary work except that of losing her life, having been threatened time and again, having seen massacres and tortures. When she first went to China the idea of missionaries was that they would eat the children of the natives after fattening them in their cellars. The natives become most earnest Christians, suffering everything but refusing to deny the Lordsome were stoned, some beheaded, but the spirit kept growing.

Wednesday morning's session opened with prayer and song service and the reading of the minutes of Tuesday's sessions. For two hours the reports of association presidents or the reading of reports sent by them interested the delegates, but a very few Owosso people being pre-ent. Reports were received from a large number of associations and while some were unusually encouraging, others reported that the prevailing talk of hard times bud caused a falling off in amounts contributed to foreign work by the using of large sums at home. The Genesee association was celebrating its twentieth anniversary, having been organized in Owosso 20 years ago. Mrs. Morris, of Red Jacket, for the Calumet association, said that their home missionary work was almost foreign work for they had 32 nationalities represented in the city, most of them with little knowledge of the Bible or of the way to live, yet they had a large church and Sunday school. Grand Rapids, Jackson, eastern Michigan, Olivet, Cadillac, Muskegon, Saginaw, southern Michigan, Detroit, Ann Arbor associations were reported from. The associations and presidents are:

Cheboygan-Miss Emma L. Frost, Cheboygan Detroit-Mrs. J. M Donaldson, Detroit, Eastern-Mrs. Russell Shattuck, Memphis. Genesce-Mrs. H. R. Lovell, Flint.

Grand River-Mrs, G. A. Pollard, Gr'd Rapids Grand Traverse-Mrs. Geo. H. Lathrop, Trav-

Jackson-Mrs. L. Kassick, Jackson. Kalamazoo-Mrs. C. DeW. Brower, South Ha

Lake Superior-Mrs. S. T. Morris, Red Jacket Lansing-Mrs. Charles T. Wickes, Stanton. Muskegon-Mrs. Archibald Hadden, Muske-

North Central-Mrs. J. S. Woodruff, Luding Olivet-Mrs. J. Estabrook, Olivet.

Saginaw-Mrs. M. M. Andrews, Bay City. Sault Ste Marie-Mrs. M. C. Morgan, Sault

zouthern-Mrs. Wm. T. Gibbs, Litchfield.

All but two of these ladies were present. Mrs. C. Swift, of Lansing, read a paper on "The Parsoness on Missions" The paper was full of facts such as are seldom brought out and might well be considered by church people everywhere. The parson's wife was supposed to be useful to the parson in setting an example for other women in the community; an encyclopedia of hints on socials, entertainments, etc.; a compendiumof knowledge on missions; has no control church, Mrs. Spayd of the Disciple church, over her own time; must be ready to receive Mrs. Van Ness of the Baptist church, and or make calls at any and all times; she belongs to the community and must sandwich ber household duties in between all ca'ls made upon her; her larder must be well filled, her children faultless and her husband well cared for; she must revere all people, without regard to age, sort or condition; head church committees, call on all strangers, see all the sick and start all subscrip tion papers, draw up resolutions, in short, be twenty women in one, yet have but two arms, two eyes, one head and only ordinary for instructing them until they grow older. physical strength. Mrs. Swift spent a day with the parsoness to learn about missions and between such calls as "where is the janitor of the church," and "who is the reigning sovereign of Portugal?" found out Bible schools were started and are now the that the parsoness had an ideal in mind for mission societies-that it be conducted as the women's clubs are: Every woman who annual report which was most complete and | was to take part was prepared and on hand; well written. She said five auxiliaries had the meeting conducted with dispatch, no been added to the Cheboygan association, a gloom pervading the room, no long and tiresome papers, but short, spicy talks, good singing-everything in a business way. She told of the meetings which were filled with solemnity and such ideas as the terrible orroreign missionary; Kalamazoo association | deals the missionaries had to go through,

Miss Nancy Jones, of Turkey, told of her work in this land where three distinct races Mrs. Bradley, of Grand Rapids, sang a live, where three tongues are spoken and where death and destruction, massacre and plague at times reign supreme. The work was evangelical and educational. The edu-Ludington, Mrs. G. A. Pollard, of Grand cational coming first, being of course neces-Rapids, and Mrs. J. Warner, of Jackson, as sary to the evangelical in its best phase. In the day school where she taught about 300 were present, and in the Sunday school, from 200 to 400. The Bible was printed in ple and the delegates. The chorus under five different languages, three Turkish, Mr. Ferry's charge sang a TeDeum; Armenian and Greek. The children learned prayer and Bible reading conducted by Mr. the Bible, learned the hymns. She had Cromer. Rey. W. C. Sperry, president of been in the country seven years, making Olivet college, who is so well and favorably Constantinople her headquarters. Their known in Owosso, having filled the pulpit work has many different departments, it several times when the church was without being necessary to give a great deal of time a pastor, preached a most earnest and help- to callers, to relief work, etc. Three times ful sermon, taking as a text "Thy Kingdom had the mob assembled to burn down their Come " Mr. Sperry paid a high tribute of houses and cut them to pieces, but God had praise to the Christian workers in foreign prevented. Many think the missionaries lands, believing that their work of devotion | are protected, but they are far from it, and was the exemplification of the highest Chris- the government gives no assistance what-

The young ladles hour on Wednesday been a missionary in China and Corea, afternoon included a report from Mrs. where husband is now working for the lep- Chaimers, of Port Huron, on her work as ers in that most afflicted part of the globe, accretary of the Junior department. It who has seen two of her children born and was a most encouraging and interesting the in a foreign land while working to save paper to those interested in the work, the the souls of these unfortunates, gave a short fact that the 50 societies contributed in talk. Mrs. Onlinger became a missionary 1895, 55 in 1895 and between 95 and 100 when a mere girl and has been through all | would make offering this year, was a most

neouraging outlocok for the permanene of the work. Delegates to the association of churches, meeting at Saginaw, May 20. the missionary society having been asked to send nine, were chosen as follows: Mrs. Bradley, of Grand Rapids; Mrs. Warren, of Three Oaks; Mrs. Light, of Saginaw; Mrs. Swift, of Lansing; Mrs. Smith, Charlotte; Mrs. Sperry, Olivet; Mrs. Aldrich, Pontiac; Mrs. Strong, of Jackson; Mrs. Boynton, of Detroit.

The officers of 1897 were then reported by the committee on nominations, the only change being that Mrs. D. F. Bradley, is to be junior Dept. Sec., and Mrs. C. E. Swift, Juvenile Dept. Sec. The committee on treasurer's report by Mrs. Warren, chairman, recommended that the report be accepted and adopted, that brench officers write to association presidents urging a more liberal devotion toward the contiagent or expense fund; that the different auxiliaries try to send at least 10 cents for each member for the contingent fund; that a proper amount be appropriated to junior work, and that if subscriptions could not be increased, that one more person be induced

The treasurer's report shows that \$6,240.-05 was sent to the Board, and \$278.83 used for contingent expenses. A thank offiering Wednesday amounted to \$20 00, for the contingent fund, the largest ever made for this fund. A weddrng ring sent by a de voted wife in the south, to be sold that the money might be used for missionary purposes, br ught \$8 50 in ten cent pieces, and the ring will be returned to the wife.

Mrs. B. F. Aldrich, of Pontiac, took up the different branches of church work, giving places for mutual help and showing the needs for each. She spoke of the great mission work of the Congregational society in the many directions it had taken. First in co-educational industries, second in educating the negro, third in the united effort against slavery before the war, the selling of slaves in the pulpit to free them. Funds had been sent to support missionaries in all parts of the world, and in all emergencies like the time of cyclones, special relief had been raised. The work of the C. E. S. C. H. M. S., C. C. B. S., A. M. A., S. S. and P. S. were wonderful in extent; yet 10,000,000 children in the U. E were yet out of Sunday Schools, and people were yet using barns, box cars, shanties, etc., for churches.

Wednesday evening was pleasantly spent and profitably listening to address and talks. Rev. Ewing, of Lansing, state S. S. superintendent said the training of the boys and girls would make the matter of money raising easy, as they would continue and push the work as they grew older, if rightly trained at fast.

The real work that missionaries do is not understood. Miss Cozad was asked if missions pay. She wished they might come to Japan, where they had 12,000 christians, e earnest workers, some who live rightly but do little work; some, who as here, are self righteons. Yet the unssionaries believe that Japan is yielding to christian influences and work on with increased in-

impressing the fact that the Mohamedan relligion or fanaticism was the enemy of christianity more than anything else, and if the power which that fanaticism holds over the sovereigns and leaders in that country can be broken, the march of christianity will be greater than at any time in the world's history.

Dr. H. A. Schauffler, of Cleveland, whose parents were missionaries in Turkey and Austria, and who has been in Turkey, gave a talk on "A Great Door open to Congregational Women." This door is the visiting in their homes, of women or men who can not, for some reason or other, get to churches, and who are willing and even anxious to hear the gospel. There are 8.500 such deaconesses at work now in 2,800 fields in 17 countries, holding over \$1,200,000 in property. The foreign element, which always needs special work was largely represented in Michigan, where the foreign population is over a million and the native population about 917,000. In Detroit 78 per cent of the population is foreign, and the deaconesses can learn and teach in the native tongue. It should be taken up, as the other departments have been, and be pushed to the front, where everything else that the Congregationalists have undertaken, has been. It is a noble field full of opportunity for the greatest good. Let the ladies improve it.

An hour was spent in visiting and making acquaintances, and listening to the tales of missionary work.

The Woman's Home Missionary Union opened its meeting Thursday morning with Mrs. I. P. Powell, Grand Rapids, president, in the chair. The following committees were apprinted:

Credentials-Mrs. C. E. Denison, of Grand Rapids; Mrs. J. L. Woodruff, of Laulington; Mrs. Wines, of Chelsea. Resolutions-Mrs. M. M. Martin, Ann Arbor; Mrs. E. P. Church, Lansing; Mrs. C. DeW.

Brower, South Haven.

Program-Mrs. E. N. Thorne, Grand Rapids;
Mrs. M. M. Martin, Ann Arbor: Mrs. Jewell,

erand Itapids. The efficers of the Union and President—Mrs. I. P. Powell, Grand Rapids, ist Vice Pron.—Mrs. W. H. Warren, Lansing 24 — Mrs. L. M. Lane, Detroit, 3d — Mrs. I. N. Rhodes, Hancock, Mrs. Q. P. Bradley, Gr'd Espids r-Sec.—Mrs. C. E. Denison, Grand Rapids, c. Sec.—Mrs. H. C. Wyman, Detroit.

Sec'y of Young People's Work-Mrs. B. F. Al-Sec'y of Children's Work-Mrs. Henry Marsh,

Editorial Sec'y-Mrs. L. P. Rowland, Grand Rapids. Treasurer-Mrs. E F. Grabill, Greenville

Auditor-T. N. Stevens, Stanton. The association presidents are: Cheboygan-Mrs. F. H. Bassett, Kalkaska. Detroit-Mrs. Mallory, Detroit. Eastern—Mrs. Russell Shattuck, Memphis. Genesee—Mrs. C. E. Hollister, Laingsburg. Gladstone—Mrs. G. C. Eperson, Gladwin. Grand River-Mrs. H. Appleton, Middleville. Grand Traverse-Mrs. Brodie. Kalamazoo—Mrs. Warren. Lake Superior—Mrs. S. T. Morris. Red Jacket

Lansing-Mrs. E. H. Porter, Lansing. North Central-Mrs. J. L. Woodruff, Lud'gton Olivet—Mrs. F. F. Ambrose, Vermontville. Saginaw—Mrs. M. Anderson, Bay City. Sault Ste Marie—Mrs. N. C. Morgan, Sault Ste Marie.

Southern-Mrs. W. T. Gibbs, Litchfield, The last meeting was held in Port Huron in March of last year and was one or unusual interest.

Mrs. Denison made a report as corresponding secretary, giving full details of the work. Mrs. B. F. Atdrich, of Poutiac, secretary of young people's work, has made an active canvass of her field and is rousing into most unusual activity this class of Christians, who are sometimes tempted to drift away from the church and religious work. Mrs. Henry Marsh told of the work in the juvenile department, urging the older societies to look after and urge on these young Christians and make the societies useful.

'Reports from association presidents were received, all reporting good work in the line of home missions. The by laws were taken up and revised as reported by the committee, Mrs. Denison and Miss Wyman. Mrs. Bradley sang very sweetly "Give us Thy Peace." Mrs. L. P. Rowland, editorial secretary, who has edited the W. H. M. U. column in the Plymouth Weekly, told of the use that might be made of this column and of the help it had already given. She wanted all to contribute, stating that the paper itself was a valuable addition to any household and the best denominational paper in the state. The programs printed in it would aid all societies to a most success-Mrs. E. N. Thorne, of Grand Rapids, in-

formed the delegates of the working of the Santee Training School for Indian children, which was founded in porthern Nebraska in 1872 by S. R. Graves. The work was educational and evangelical, the intention being to arouse an interest in the children on educational lines, teaching them true manhood and self reliance and by degrees Christianity. The cooking school has made useful wives and servants of many of these girls, but is closed now for lack of funds. The Indians not having their old ways of procuring food must learn the way of the white man in order that the race may exist at all. In Dakota the Indian school has five cottages presided over by matrons where these savages learn real living. A hospital was one of the most necessary things lacking now and it is hoped one may be secured.

Mrs. Joel Martin related some practical expariences in the work of home missions in Northern Michigan, bringing to the dele gates an idea of the real distress that pre valls in this prosperous state. Men, women and children dying without-medical aid and buried with no religious service, not on account of the poverty of the people but being scattered and of different nationalities and changes by reason of shifting population. Ewen, which has a Congregational church and parsonage built by the aid of southern peninsula people and in fair prospeet to get out of debt-a population of 2,500 working people and making good wages-is a good example, as now the town has less than 400 people and the debt is not paid.

Supt. W. H. Warren summarized the relation of women's home missionary societles to the nation and state societies by telling of the different work there was to do and that unless taken as a whole it would be like the man with only a pair of shoes to wear or with only a part of his clothes.

Mrs. B. M. Cutcheon, of Grand Rapids, took up the matter of business methods in women's societies, and gave her associates a large number of practical points, which should be used by them. Many of the ladles were too sensitive about social matters, sometimes cherishing as a personal grievance a mere statement of plate truth. In writing she gave them a few suggestions as to addresses, and advised prompt pay-(Continued on page 4.)

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